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IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A method for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the method being performed in a base station and comprising the steps of:

transmitting a timing control order in a timing control time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal; and

monitoring received timing control signal time slots to determine whether a timing control signal has been received from said particular wireless terminal, reception of said timing control signal indicating that said particular wireless terminal is reachable in said base station cell coverage area.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said timing control time slot is a paging time slot.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said timing control order includes the identity of said particular wireless terminal being queried.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 3 wherein said timing control order further includes a prescribed time at which and a prescribed timing control signal that said wireless terminal is to transmit.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said particular wireless terminal and said base station know a priori a prescribed timing control signal and a prescribed time that said prescribed timing control signal is to be transmitted by said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 1 further including steps of determining whether said timing control message has been received in a prescribed interval and, if not, terminating any link connection assigned to said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 6 wherein said step of terminating includes a step of transmitting a termination order to said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method as defined in claim 1 further including a step of transmitting said timing control order a prescribed number of times, if no timing control



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signal is received by said base station after said prescribed number of transmissions, terminating any link connection to said particular wireless terminal or if a prescribed timing control signal at a prescribed time is received after any of said transmissions of said timing control order from said particular wireless terminal maintaining any link connection to said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 9 (original): A method for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the method being performed in a wireless terminal and comprising the steps of:

entering a monitoring mode to monitor a received paging time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal for a timing control order; and

in response to detecting a received timing control order for said particular wireless terminal, transmitting a timing control signal in a prescribed timing control time slot.

Claim 10 (original): The method as defined in claim 9 further including the steps of if no timing control order is detected, entering a standby mode and entering said monitoring mode at a prescribed time.

Claim 11 (original): The method as defined in claim 9 further including the steps of if a terminate order is detected in said monitoring mode, entering a standby mode and entering said monitoring mode at a prescribed time.

Claim 12 (original): The method as defined in claim 10 wherein said timing control time slot is a paging time slot.

Claim 13 (original): The method as defined in claim 10 wherein said timing control order includes the identity of said particular wireless terminal being queried.

Claim 14 (original): The method as defined in claim 13 wherein said timing control order further includes a prescribed time at which and a prescribed timing control signal that said wireless terminal is to transmit.

Claim 15 (original): The method as defined in claim 10 wherein said particular wireless terminal and said base station know a priori a prescribed timing control signal and a prescribed time that said prescribed timing control signal is to be transmitted by said particular wireless terminal.

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Claim 16 (original): Apparatus for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the apparatus being in a base station and comprising:

a transmitter for transmitting a timing control order in a timing control time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal; and

a monitor for monitoring received timing control signal time slots to determine whether a timing control signal has been received from said particular wireless terminal, reception of said timing control signal indicating that said particular wireless terminal is reachable in said base station cell coverage area.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein said timing control time slot is a paging time slot.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein said timing control order includes the identity of said particular wireless terminal being queried.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 18 wherein said timing control order further includes a prescribed time at which and a prescribed timing control signal that said wireless terminal is to transmit.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein said particular wireless terminal and said base station know a priori a prescribed timing control signal and a prescribed time that said prescribed timing control signal is to be transmitted by said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein said monitor further determines whether said timing control message has been received in a prescribed interval and, if not, said transmitter is controlled to terminate any link connection assigned to said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 21 wherein said transmitter is controlled to transmit a termination order to said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): The apparatus as defined in claim 21 wherein said transmitter is controlled to transmit said timing control order a prescribed number of times, and further including a receiver for receiving timing control time slots and if no

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timing control signal is received by said receiver after said prescribed number of transmissions, said transmitter is controlled to terminate any link connection to said particular wireless terminal or if a prescribed timing control signal at a prescribed time is received by said receiver after any of said transmissions of said timing control order from said particular wireless terminal maintaining any link connection to said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 24 (original): Apparatus for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the apparatus being in a wireless terminal and comprising:

a receiver controlled to enter a monitoring mode to monitor a received paging time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal for a timing control order; and

a transmitter, responsive to detecting a received timing control order for said particular wireless terminal, to transmit a timing control signal in a prescribed timing control time slot.

Claim 25 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 24 wherein said particular wireless terminal, in response to no timing control order being detected, being controlled to enter a standby mode and, then, to enter said monitoring mode at a prescribed time.

Claim 26 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 24 wherein said particular wireless terminal, in response to a terminate order being detected in said monitoring mode, being controlled to enter a standby mode and, then, to enter said monitoring mode at a prescribed time.

Claim 27 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 25 wherein said timing control time slot is a paging time slot.

Claim 28 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 25 wherein said timing control order includes the identity of said particular wireless terminal being queried.

Claim 29 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 28 wherein said timing control order further includes a prescribed time at which and a prescribed timing control signal that said wireless terminal is to transmit.

Claim 30 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 25 wherein said particular wireless terminal and said base station know a priori a prescribed timing control signal

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and a prescribed time that said prescribed timing control signal is to be transmitted by said transmitter of said particular wireless terminal.

Claim 31 (original): A method for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the method comprising the steps of:

in a base station

transmitting a timing control order in a timing control time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal, and

monitoring received timing control signal time slots to determine whether a timing control signal has been received from said particular wireless terminal, reception of said timing control signal indicating that said particular wireless terminal is reachable in said base station cell coverage area; and

in a wireless terminal

entering a monitoring mode to monitor a received paging time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal for a timing control order, and

in response to detecting a received timing control order for said particular wireless terminal, transmitting a timing control signal in a prescribed timing control time slot.

Claim 32 (original): Apparatus for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the apparatus being in a base station and comprising:

means for transmitting a timing control order in a timing control time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal; and

means for monitoring received timing control signal time slots to determine whether a timing control signal has been received from said particular wireless terminal, reception of said timing control signal indicating that said particular wireless terminal is reachable in said base station cell coverage area.

Claim 33 (original): Apparatus for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying

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whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the apparatus being in a wireless terminal and comprising:

means for controlling said particular wireless terminal to enter a monitoring mode to monitor a received paging time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal for a timing control order; and

means, being responsive to detecting a received timing control order for said particular wireless terminal, for transmitting a timing control signal in a prescribed timing control time slot.

Claim 34 (original): Apparatus for use in a wireless communications system including at least one base station and one or more wireless terminals for identifying whether a particular wireless terminal is reachable within a base station cell coverage area, the apparatus comprising:

in a base station

means for transmitting a timing control order in a timing control time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal, and

means for monitoring received timing control signal time slots to determine whether a timing control signal has been received from said particular wireless terminal, reception of said timing control signal indicating that said particular wireless terminal is reachable in said base station cell coverage area; and

in a wireless terminal

means for controlling said particular wireless terminal to enter a monitoring mode to monitor a received paging time slot assigned to said particular wireless terminal for a timing control order, and

means, being responsive to detecting a received timing control order for said particular wireless terminal, for transmitting a timing control signal in a prescribed timing control time slot.